

***Conclusion***

If Examiner Slobodyansky believes that a telephone conference with the undersigned would expedite passage of the present patent application to issue, she is invited to call on the number below.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and the undersigned hereby authorizes any such charges to be charged to the credit card recited in the attached PTO-2038.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Shelly Guest Cermak  
Registration No. 39,571

**U.S. P.T.O. Customer No. 38108**

Ajinomoto Corporate Services LLC  
1120 Connecticut Ave.  
Ste. 1010  
Washington D.C. 20036  
202.457.0284 (voice)  
202.457.0107 (fax)

Date: November 16, 2004